

REMARKS

Pending Claims

Claims 20 and 33 have been amended. No new claims have been added. Claims 1-19, 21-32 and 34-36 were canceled by prior Amendments. Accordingly, claims 20 and 33 are now pending in this application.

Statement of Substance of Interview

Applicant's undersigned representative would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended through the telephonic interview that was conducted on September 18, 2007. During the interview, the amendments to the claims were discussed relative to the Gase reference and the other art of record. No agreement was reached on whether the amendments overcome the art of record, as the Examiner indicated that a more thorough study of the prior art would be required. Accordingly, Applicants have submitted the amendments in this paper so that the Examiner may consider the patentability of the claims at greater length.

Specification

The Abstract was objected to because it contained two paragraphs instead of a single paragraph. In response Applicant has amended the Abstract to be a single paragraph of less than 150 words. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 20 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gase, U.S. Patent No. 5,580,177 (hereafter "Gase"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections for the following reasons.

Applicant's amended claim 20 is directed to a network device for generating print data in accordance with information resources received from outside, and sending the print data to a printer. Print related information necessary for generating the print data is appropriately acquired from a prescribed location on the network at a prescribed time. The print data is generated by using the acquired print related information and is sent to the printer. When the prescribed location where the print related information is installed changes to a different prescribed location, the print related information which is acquired from the prescribed location on the network contains information concerning the different prescribed location on said network to be accessed upon the next acquisition of the print related information.

Gase, on the other hand, teaches a configuration in which multiple separate client processors 10, 12, 14 each include printer utilities 24 and printer drivers 26. Further, a file server 16 is in communication with the client processors and also with a plurality of separate printers 18, 20, 22 (see col. 3, lines 3-15 and FIG. 1). Modular I/O cards are provided for each printer, and provide interface capability between a connected printer and the file server to enable use of the printers on networks of

various protocol types (see col. 3, lines 29-46). The file server accumulates data regarding available printers and is able to generate a display screen 50 that appears on a client processor in response to a user's request to show available printers (see col. 4, lines 39-47). When a client processor elects to utilize a particular printer, if the existing driver in the client processor requires an update, a new printer driver is installed from printer driver library 38 in file server 16 (see col. 4, lines 51-54). Printer utility 24 enables automatic connection to file server 16 and to an appropriate print queue that serves the selected printer (see col. 5, lines 4-8). The client processors communicate with the file server, and are able to select from among the multiple printers. The file server receives print jobs from the processors and queues the print jobs for the selected printers.

However, Applicant's amended claim 20 includes that,

in the case where the prescribed location where the print related information is installed changes to a different prescribed location, the print related information which is acquired from the prescribed location on said network contains information concerning the different prescribed location on said network to be accessed upon the next acquisition of said print related information.

This amendment finds support at, e.g., page 19, lines 15-20 of Applicant's English language specification. Thus, the next time that print related information is acquired by the network device of Applicant's invention, the network device has been automatically notified of the different location at which the print related information is to be acquired by the inclusion of the different location with the print related information previously acquired. This feature is neither taught, nor suggested by Gase or the other

art of record. For example, Gase merely teaches that the client processors acquire printer drivers from the file server 16, and Gase provides no teachings of automatically directing a next acquisition of printer information from a different source in acquired print related information. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 20 is allowable.

Applicant's amended claim 33 is directed to a printer that generates print data in accordance with resources received from the outside. The printer of claim 33 includes that

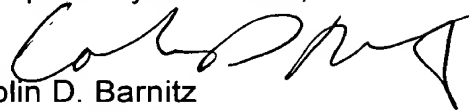
in the case where the prescribed location where the print related information is installed changes to a different prescribed location, the print related information which is acquired from the prescribed location on said network contains information concerning a different server on said network to be accessed as the different prescribed location upon the next acquisition of said print related information.

This amendment finds support at, e.g., page 19, lines 15-20 of Applicant's English language specification. Gase fails to teach or suggest a printer that includes this feature. Instead, the printers of Gase merely include interface capability between a connected printer and the file server to enable use of the printers on networks (see, e.g., col. 3, lines 29-46 of Gase). Thus, the printers of Gase do not include any capability of acquiring print related information, or of acquiring print related information of a different server on the network to be accessed upon the next acquisition of print related information, as set forth in Applicant's amended claim 33. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 33 is allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



Colin D. Barnitz
Registration No. 35,061

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120
Date: October 2, 2007